

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

80-7693

NFAC #5614/80

13 August 1980

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA : Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment
Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM : Associate Coordinator for Academic Relations, NFAC

SUBJECT : Discussion/Dinner Proposal for September: "Prospects
for Stability in Pakistan"

1. Action Requested: *Friday, 19 September* Approval of the above subject for our next discussion/dinner. The date ~~Wednesday, 10~~ September, has been tentatively reserved on your calendar for this purpose.

2. Background: The threat posed to Pakistan by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan tended, at least temporarily, to unify the nation around President Zia and his military government. The regime remains unstable, however, pressed by the civilian opposition for an early return to democracy, facing mounting economic difficulties, and unable to resolve perennial regional problems caused by ethnic and cultural rivalries. A possible early return to political unrest and growing discontent within the military could further erode Zia's control. This would appear to be a good time to bring together academic and government experts to discuss present trends and future prospects for Pakistan. The discussion would focus on domestic problems but presumably would, at least peripherally, examine the pressure exerted on the government by events occurring in Iran and India as well as in Afghanistan.

3. There are numerous academicians with a solid background on India; there are relatively few on Pakistan. One of the latter is Stephen Cohen of the University of Illinois who is presently writing a book on the Pakistani military establishment. Two others on the fringes

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of academia are Selig Harrison and Chris van Hollen, both with the Carnegie Endowment--the former in New York, the latter in Washington. Harrison developed a keen and abiding interest in Pakistan while serving as foreign correspondent and subsequently as editorial writer for the Washington Post. Van Hollen's expertise developed during a long career on South Asian affairs for the State Department. We would hope to have at least two of the above and, if possible, have them stay over for the following day to meet with some of our South Asian analysts. From government, we could invite Hal Saunders or his deputy for South Asia, Jane Coon; Tom Thornton from the NSC Staff; Bill Barnds from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Staff; and perhaps, Ambassador Bob Pelletreau, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Near East, Africa and South Asia at ISA or his deputy for the Near East and South Asia, Henry Gaffney.

4. Recommendation: That you approve the subject and date proposed above for the next scheduled DCI discussion/dinner so that planning may proceed.



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APPROVED:

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Director of Central Intelligence

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DISAPPROVED:

Director of Central Intelligence

Date

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